

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROMOTING FAIR AND EFFECTIVE POLICING THROUGH RESEARCH ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Promoting Fair and Effective Policing Through Research Act.

We are a nation in mourning. Our shared anguish over the loss of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, Botham Jean and countless other black men and women at the hands of police has spurred a growing chorus of Americans to demand not only justice, but meaningful and lasting change.

Cities across the nation are grappling with how to respond. A number of officials have committed to sweeping reductions in police department funding and embraced a move toward innovative approaches to providing public safety. Others are calling for more resources for police departments and advocating for procedural reforms.

I am heartened that we, as a nation, are engaging in a substantive discourse about the role of policing in American society. This day is long overdue and has come at too high a cost, but we must seize this opportunity. We must dig deep to examine how the history and culture of policing in America has brought us to this tumultuous place. And, in our search for solutions, we must be guided by evidence grounded in data and scientific research.

First and foremost, we must have a national database on police use of force, and I am glad to see this included in the Justice in Policing Act. We must explore the legacy of policing and the root cause of the racial disparities we observe. We must assess the organizational influences on policing—such as recruitment, training, and performance evaluation. We must examine promising practices for promoting accountability and fostering community trust. We must study the influence of technology and big data on vulnerable populations and work to root out any biases. Finally, we must establish meaningful partnerships between law enforcement and researchers to empower jurisdictions to tailor proven solutions to meet their needs and the needs of the communities they serve.

The bill I am introducing today directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund social and behavioral research on policing policies, including the causes, consequences, and mitigation of police violence. NSF is directed to support collaborative partnerships between social science researchers, law enforcement agencies, and civil society organizations. The bill also provides for a National Academies study to identify research gaps related to law enforcement policies, collect promising practices, and make recommendations for advancing research and implementation of proven solutions.

This bill would also address research and standards for biometric identification technologies, including facial recognition technologies. If we allow inaccuracies or biases to persist in these systems, then when deployed in high-impact situations, like decision making in the criminal justice system, those biases will disproportionately harm communities of color. Important research and testing at the National Institute of Standards and Technology has already helped identify the biases and improve the accuracy of these systems. This bill directs NIST to expand upon these efforts and focus on new areas in need of testing, such as capture devices. This bill will also help lead to standardization of methodologies and practices to eliminate biases across the industry and develop guidance to inform law enforcement procurement decisions.

Importantly, science and standardization are only two pieces in the biometric puzzle. We need a national privacy law to limit the risk of abuse from biometric identification technologies. I call on my colleagues in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the House Committee on the Judiciary to take up this issue with haste.

Finally, the bill leverages science at the Department of Homeland Security to support the reduction of excessive use of force and lethal use of force by law enforcement. There have been too many fatal encounters with not only state and local police across the country, but also with Federal law enforcement, including the U.S. Park Police. This bill requires the Under Secretary for Science and Technology to consult with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to support research and data analysis to improve training, policies, and practices for Federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement officials. The Department's research and support for risk assessment tools can assist in the development of guidelines and best practices for policing and police training, including how to mitigate racial bias and minimize the use of excessive force.

I urge my colleagues to join me and help move this legislation forward into law.

HONORING THE CLASS OF 2020 AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, in honor of all of this year's graduates, I am proud to recognize the Class of 2020 across Iowa's Third Congressional District as our Iowans of the Week. As we near the end of the semester for thousands of students, I ask that you all join me in taking a moment to acknowledge their accomplishments over the course of the year and congratulate them on this achievement as they move forward in their lives and toward their next endeavors.

Unfortunately, many of the traditions and ceremonies our graduates would typically look forward to have been cancelled. The pageantry and tradition of turned tassels, pomp and circumstance, and the bestowing of the degree or the diploma will sadly not come this year. And just as this pandemic has denied graduates these moments, so too has it compounded the daily challenges of life these students have faced.

As distance learning has become the new norm, these students have developed a whole new appreciation for the academic, social, and emotional supports that have helped them along the way. While these unfortunate circumstances have clouded a typically joyous time of year, it has been remarkable to see students rise to the challenge, adapt, and learn with little time to plan. They transitioned to online and distance learning and were able to come out on the other side more resilient as they finish the final days of their final year.

Iowa's teachers and students have been innovative and have stepped up to support their local communities, showing just what we are capable of in the face of adversity. Some students are even working around the clock to produce face shields for health care workers, as well as creating masks for friends and family.

The students of the Class of 2020 deserve special recognition this week for their willingness to forego many of the most cherished traditions of their final year in order to help the greater community. These students represent the heart of Iowa's communities and will be the next generation of leaders who will still be faced with the problems of today later down the road.

I am grateful for every member of the Class of 2020 who has completed a great milestone in their lives to become a better and more educated citizen who will contribute great things to our society we have yet to even think of. So please allow me to express my deep appreciation and thanks to every graduating student in Iowa's Third Congressional District by honoring them today as Iowans of the Week.

HONORING RUDOLPH HYDE AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Pastor Dr. Rudolph M. Hyde is a native of the Caribbean Island of Jamaica who migrated to the United States of America and attended Polk State College; graduating with a degree in Computer Network Engineering. He was also awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Ministry from Isaiah University.

Recognizing and nurturing the anointing and calling upon his life, Pastor Rudolph was ordained as an Elder and has served in various

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

leadership positions throughout the years. His love for ministry led him to start the Faith Temple Apostolic Ministries International church in Eagle Lake, Florida in March 2014, and was ordained as the Pastor. He is supported by his wife Marlene and four children.

The church in Eagle Lake is a multi-cultural ministry serving the whole individual regardless of challenges or limitations. He believes there is nothing too difficult for God and believes that a voice in the community is a voice for hope and identity. Through the platform of his ministry, he has opened opportunities to work and help in the community by addressing the needs of the people. Over the years, the ministry has been able to provide food, clothing and funds to the general public through the Feed the People Program.

For the last 6 years, the ministry has hosted a free public annual event known as Jamaica Day, bringing Caribbean culture, food and music to the community of Polk County which draws in hundreds of people annually.

With his passion for giving back, Pastor Hyde also founded Hyde's Academy in Eagle Lake to provide Computer and CPR training to the general community with the American Heart Association's support. He believes that there is nothing impossible that the human mind cannot accomplish if we work and unite together.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JEFFREY L. CURTIS AS HE RECEIVES THE JOHN B. BARNWELL AWARD

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Dr. Jeffrey L. Curtis as he receives the 2019 John B. Barnwell Award. Dr. Curtis's commitment to advancing the healthcare of our nation's veterans is worthy of commendation.

After receiving his medical degree from the Georgetown University School of Medicine, Dr. Curtis completed his clinical residency at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center and spent two years as a Clinical Immunology Fellow at the National Institute on Aging, NIH. Following residency, Dr. Curtis trained in Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine (PCCM) at the University of California San Francisco, where he joined the faculty at the San Francisco VA. Dr. Curtis continued his work with veterans at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, where he served as Chief in the PCCM Section and as scientific director of a Research Enhancement Award Program center in tobacco-induced lung diseases. Dr. Curtis has held leadership roles in several COPD trials and continues to lead groundbreaking research efforts, including the ongoing SPIROMICS and COPDGene studies. Furthermore, Dr. Curtis is the Associate Editor of the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine, is the past-Chair of the American Thoracic Scientific Assembly on Allergy, Immunology, and Inflammation, and is a current professor at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Receiving the prestigious John B. Barnwell Award exemplifies Dr. Curtis's continued commitment to scientific discovery and improving

health outcomes for our nation's veterans. The award, which represents the Clinical Science Research and Development Service's highest honor within the Department of Veterans Affairs, recognizes senior VHA investigators who have achieved international acclaim for their clinical research accomplishments and have led clinical research endeavors that have advanced the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and disorders in the veteran population. Undoubtedly, Dr. Curtis is a deserving recipient of this award. He is internationally recognized as a leading researcher in the field of pulmonary disease and has led a number of major clinical trials and programs that have advanced the study of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and other lung disorders. Dr. Curtis has dedicated his career to clinical research and continues to transform the quality of care for veterans nationwide.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Jeffrey Curtis as he receives the John B. Barnwell Award. We thank him for his meaningful work and wish him continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELIZABETH "BETSY" GILBERTSON

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to Elizabeth "Betsy" Gilbertson, a dear friend who we lost much too soon. Though she waged a fierce battle, Betsy recently lost her fight with ovarian cancer.

Betsy dedicated her professional life and much of her personal time to ensuring that everyone has access to affordable, quality health care. From the earliest days of her career, Betsy combined her passion for advocacy with that of her belief that quality, affordable healthcare was a right, not a privilege. As a member of the Connecticut Nurses Association and District 1199, New England SEIU, Betsy represented her fellow nurses in collective bargaining. She also led a non-profit women's health center before joining UNITE HERE HEALTH, a Taft-Hartley labor management trust fund that provides health benefits that offer high quality, affordable health care to their participants, where she held a number of leadership roles prior to her last position as Chief of Strategy.

Betsy's dedication to quality, affordable healthcare extended far beyond her professional career. She served on National Quality Forum Task Forces on patient safety and ambulatory care measures; was founder as well as Chair/Co-Chair of the Health Services Coalition, a labor management organization that contracts with hospitals and advocates for public policies that improve quality health care, affordability, and access in Nevada; and was a Board member of the National Committee for Quality Assurance for five years. In more recent years, she continued her good work serving on the Lown Institute Advisory Council and the federal Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee.

For me, Betsy was not only been an invaluable resource on healthcare issues, but a

cherished friend. It is a friendship that dates back to a time before our lives took us to Washington, D.C. Betsy and her husband, John, lived in my childhood neighborhood of Wooster Square in New Haven, Connecticut for many years—John and my husband, Stan, teaching together at Yale University long before we met. Betsy and I were kindred spirits and I will be forever grateful to have had her friendship all these years.

I am heartbroken at Betsy's loss and extend my deepest sympathies to her husband, John Wilhelm, as well as their children Tom and Vinnie; and their three grandchildren. I, like so many of those who had the opportunity to know her, consider myself fortunate to have called her my friend and will continue to be inspired by her memory. Betsy was an extraordinary woman who passion and dedication touched countless lives—this world is just a bit dimmer without her in it.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY H. MCCOMBS

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran and Rialto community leader Mary H. McCombs.

A graduate of University of Redlands, Mary began her decades of community service as a social worker with the Riverside County Welfare Department. Shortly after President Roosevelt's signing of the Navy Women's Reserve Act into law in 1942, she answered the call to serve her country and enlisted in the U.S. Navy WAVES program.

Mary's tenure in the WAVES program resulted in travel to New York, Norco, California, and the San Francisco Bay where she trained to serve the Navy in a medical capacity. Until the end of World War II, she was stationed at the Naval Hospital on Treasure Island where her primary duties involved tracking all the admissions and discharges for the hospital.

Upon discharge from the Navy, Mary married Ray McCombs and moved to Rialto, California, where she served as First Lady of Rialto from 1952 to 1954. A loving mother of five children, she always sought opportunities to improve the lives of others. In 1962 she returned to work for the San Bernardino County Adoption Service, where she placed hundreds of children into loving homes throughout the county. Mary's beloved husband sadly passed in 1983.

Mary continued to remain active in the community and with her local church. She was a member of the American Association of University Women, the Rialto Symphony Guild and other civic organizations. In June 1995, she served on the task force to build the Rialto Senior Center and subsequently served on their board. Within education, Mary contributed to the establishment of the Morrow-McCombs Memorial Lecture Series at Cal State University, San Bernardino, which had a focus on fostering better understanding among Christian, Jewish, and Muslim people.

An avid traveler, Mary visited sites around the world and accomplished many feats in her travels, such as climbing the Great Pyramid of

Giza in her late seventies. She enjoyed exercise, as demonstrated by her frequent 3-mile walks to Trapp Elementary School. Mary remained active throughout her retired life, until she peacefully passed away on June 6, 2020.

For her decades of commitment to our community and country in so many ways, we honor Mary H. McCombs on this day and thank her for the legacy she left in the City of Rialto and the greater Inland Empire. May she rest in peace.

IN HONOR OF MR. ANDRE MOSES
WHITE

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Andre Moses White of Atlanta, Georgia, who passed away on June 9, 2020.

Mr. White was the third of seven children born to Moses and Lucille White. He was raised in Tampa before relocating to Tallahassee and graduating from Lincoln High School. He then enrolled at Florida A&M University and earned a BS in Physical Education with a minor in Health Education. After graduating from FAMU, White was drafted by the Denver Broncos as a Tight End. He also played for the San Diego Chargers and was one of the first African Americans to sign with the Cincinnati Bengals.

After a knee injury brought his football career to a close, White returned to Tampa to serve as the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Officer for Hillsborough County. While there, he most notably launched the fight to remove the confederate flag from the County Seal. This was eventually accomplished in 2016. Mr. White's career also included following in his father's footsteps and operating Moses White's Cozy Corner BBQ restaurant, serving as the road manager for Marvin Gaye, and starting The Georgia Sentinel, a progressive news outlet for Atlanta's African American community.

Mr. White was a member of numerous organizations, served on the board of Wayfield Food Stores, and was the President of the Moses White Foundation. Mr. White will be forever remembered as a dedicated servant from whom many in the community sought council. His wife of 55 years, Joyce White, died on April 2, 2020. He is survived by his siblings, 4 children, and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in offering our deepest and heartfelt condolences to the White family and friends. He will be greatly missed.

May God continue to bless the family of Mr. Andre Moses White.

RECOGNIZING TROY
CHARBONNEAU

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Detective Troy Charbonneau of

Billings for always being prepared and willing to answer the call of duty whether he is in uniform or off duty.

It was the first weekend of June, and Troy wanted to take advantage of the nice weather. He packed his kayak and headed to Lake Elmo with his new puppy which was also eager to get outside. With his kayak in the water and his pup enjoying the view, Troy was able to relax.

After a while, Troy noticed a small dot on the lake's horizon. He looked closer and realized it was a person about 250 yards from the bank. At the shore, people were yelling. The swimmer was struggling, his head disappearing underwater. Realizing the severity of the situation, Troy immediately steered his kayak toward the boy. Troy was able to get the boy alongside his kayak and secure him with a life jacket. Using a rope, he towed the boy safely to shore as sounds of ambulance and police sirens echoed across the lake.

A detective with the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office, Troy says being a police officer is a 24/7 job. If you're off duty, he says, you still have a responsibility to do what you can to keep everyone safe. An investigator of crimes against children and a forensic interviewer, Troy is dedicated to the Billings community, and that drive keeps him ready at a moment's notice. Troy saved a boy from drowning, because he's always observant of everything around him. He's committed his life to public service and law enforcement.

On behalf of a grateful Montana and nation, I thank Troy and all our law enforcement officials who serve our communities selflessly, honorably, and with full hearts.

Madam Speaker, for his swift, heroic actions to save a boy's life and for being a great example of service for all Montanans, I recognize Detective Troy Charbonneau of Billings for his Spirit of Montana.

UPON THE RETIREMENT OF
DEBRAH MARRIOTT AS EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE LOWER
COLUMBIA ESTUARY PARTNER-
SHIP

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, it is with mixed emotions that I congratulate Deb Marriott, the founding and long-time Executive Director of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, on her well-deserved retirement. For twenty-five years, Deb has very capably led the Estuary Partnership to educate youth, restore Columbia River ecosystems, and advocate for culturally appropriate, science-based management. She has proven to be a committed and collaborative partner for Tribes, schools, shippers, and fishing communities, as well as municipalities along the Columbia. And she has left the River, and its communities, all the better through her work.

Deb was instrumental in designing—and ultimately helping to pass into law in 2016—the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act, legislation that I and fellow Oregon colleagues created to reduce toxics in the Columbia. She worked to bring people together around a common theme—cleaning up the river—and

kept true to the science. This is just one example of her work; throughout the years she has developed a reputation for honesty, hard work, and exceptional quality, and that standing has been passed on to the Estuary Partnership. The resiliency of so many on-the-ground projects, the result of many long hours and much collaboration with partners, and of the National Estuary Program itself, show Deb's meaningful mark on the River and its communities for generations to come.

Issues of salmon recovery and watershed protection are not always the easiest in the Pacific Northwest, yet I have known Deb to be not just a tireless advocate, but also a skilled listener. Whether it has been through work with Tribes, politicians and agency officials, volunteers, students, or any number of other stakeholders, Deb has always kept her eyes on the bigger picture.

Her work has played a tremendous role in connecting people to this special part of our amazing planet. I thank Deb from the bottom of my heart, for her decades of service. I wish her the best in a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING DEBRAH MARRIOTT ON
HER RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE LOWER
COLUMBIA ESTUARY PARTNER-
SHIP

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Debrah Marriott on her retirement as Executive Director of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership at the end of this month.

Throughout her career, Debrah has been a steadfast champion for protecting and advocating for the Lower Columbia River. Debrah has led the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership since its inception, and there is no doubt that the river's habitats and water quality are improved today because of Debrah's leadership, particularly her work on the Columbia River Basin Restoration Act.

As Co-Chair of the Congressional Estuary Caucus, I have relied on Debrah's expertise for years. Her thoughtful perspective and extensive network through the National Estuary Program have been invaluable. Most recently, she and her staff helped inform my work on the bipartisan Blue Carbon for Our Planet Act. Last year, I had the pleasure of joining Debrah at the groundbreaking of the Steigerwald Reconnection Project, a 960-acre habitat restoration project on the mainstem of the Columbia River that will help salmon, wildlife, and the larger ecosystem flourish. Projects like Steigerwald and countless others along the Columbia River would not exist without Debrah's commitment to collaboration with regional partners. I appreciate her dedication to the ecological benefits of a project, and also her commitment to supporting the region's economic, social, and cultural needs. Even during the coronavirus pandemic, Debrah joined me for a virtual panel discussion earlier this month on how to revitalize our coastal communities.

Debrah's tenacity and dedication to protecting our lands and waters has created an incredible legacy of conservation for our region. I thank Debrah for her more than 25

years of dedicated service to Northwest Oregon and congratulate her on her retirement.

HONORING JEREMY THOMAS LANIER AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, 4th generation Floridian, Jeremy Thomas Lanier has been a lifelong resident of Osceola County. For decades he has worked with his parents, Tom and Sharon Lanier, in their family antiques store located in the heart of Historic Downtown Kissimmee. Raised with a sense of civic duty, Jeremy is president of the Downtown Business Association of Kissimmee, an organization that both of his parents led at one time, and he also serves as a board member of various community organizations including Kissimmee Main Street, the Osceola County Historical Society, the Opportunity Center, and the Osceola County LGBTQA.

In 2017 Jeremy began his career in public health at the Florida Department of Health in Osceola County working primarily with HIV patients in the ASPECTS clinic. After graduating with a degree in psychology from Rollins College in Winter Park, Jeremy used his education to successfully counsel both newly diagnosed and long-term HIV survivors and assist them throughout the treatment process. In addition to his counseling position at the health department, he also began working in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program where he manages the medication regimens of over 200 Osceola County clients.

Jeremy also manages the ADAP Copay and Premium Assistance program; assisting over 50 clients with the acquisition and management of their insurance acquired through the Healthcare Marketplace. Jeremy also assists in the oversight of the PrEP program through which over 100 clients have been afforded access to pre-exposure prophylaxis. Recently he accepted the position of Public Information Officer at the FDOH-Osceola where he manages media relations, internal and public messaging and public outreach for the health department. Jeremy and his partner Christopher May live in the business district of Historic Downtown Kissimmee where they are active in community organizations and proudly support LGBTQ causes throughout Osceola County.

HONORING CAPTAIN RAY SPRADLIN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Ray Spradlin for his exceptional public service to the people of the city of Santa Rosa and the State of California, and to honor his retirement after 38 years as a fireman.

Captain Ray Spradlin was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He attended Petaluma High School

from 1977 to 1981 and graduated from Santa Rosa Junior College in 1984. Since then, he has dedicated his career to serving the community around him, often while it was at its lowest point. He rose through the ranks of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Santa Rosa Fire Department, earning the respect of those around him. As captain, he used the knowledge and expertise gained from his years of experience to both lead his colleagues in protecting members of the public and ensuring a safer working environment for the people around him. He will continue to dedicate his life to protecting fellow first responders even after his retirement through his work with Worldwide Safety Solutions.

Throughout his career, Captain Spradlin has been recognized for his hard work and commitment to fighting for the people around him. He was honored at the 2010 Sonoma County Paramedic Associate Survivors Union for providing life-saving treatment to Yessenia Cruz, who would have died if it were not for the quick actions of Captain Spradlin. This recognition is just one example of countless heroic actions taken by Captain Spradlin to protect his community. More recently, Captain Spradlin served on the front lines during the Tubbs Fire in 2017, working tirelessly for days to fight that devastating disaster.

Madam Speaker, Captain Ray Spradlin represents the type of fine citizen that we should all strive to be. His career has been dedicated to protecting both his community and his fellow first responders. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FARM-TO-MARKET ROAD REPAIR ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Farm-to-Market Road Repair Act, legislation that will expand eligibility for the Surface Transportation Block Grant program to include rural roads that serve to transport agriculture products from farms or ranches to the marketplace.

American agricultural communities play a pivotal role in the economy within my district and across America. These farms and ranches provide the communities they serve with fresh products daily, ensuring consumers have an adequate and healthy food supply. Unfortunately, many of the roads are deteriorating.

Over 70 percent of our nation's total road mileage is in rural areas, yet, between 2009 and 2015, these roads have only seen about 37 percent of federal highway fund. As Congress debates how to move forward with a bold plan to address infrastructure, we need to ensure road-repair projects like these do not fall by the wayside as we seek to address other larger infrastructure projects. Just because a road is in a rural area does not mean the road is small or otherwise unimportant. To the contrary, I am aware of several rural road projects in my district and the surrounding region that are major connectors that would benefit from this type of funding opportunity.

My bill expands the current surface block grant program to include these roads—roads

that serve as a lifeline to the people that depend on them. We must invest in our rural infrastructure now, before it is in complete disrepair. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING IOWA'S TEACHERS AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, in honor of National Teacher Appreciation Week, I am recognizing the incredible educators of Iowa's Third Congressional District as our Iowans of the Week. Their daily contributions to our children's lives have perhaps never been more evident than during the past couple of months while our nation battles the COVID-19 pandemic. As distance learning has become the new norm, parents-turned-home-educators have developed a whole new appreciation for the academic, social, and emotional support teachers provide our children.

It has been remarkable to see educators and school staff rise to the challenge of serving their students in the face of this unprecedented crisis. With little time to plan and while coping with the pandemic themselves, they transitioned lesson plans to fit the constraints of distance learning and have worked hard to find creative ways to keep students engaged. Within the Des Moines Public School district alone, teachers have now moved more than 6,300 Pre-K through 8th grade classes to an online learning platform and distributed nearly 21,000 laptop computers to students across grade levels. In districts across central and southwest Iowa, teachers have also packed countless bags of books, school supplies, games, and other supports for students and families. And at Thomas Jefferson High School in Council Bluffs, teachers are now hosting activities like Anime Club meetups via Google Hangouts.

Their efforts extend far beyond traditional lesson plans. Teachers were among the first to recognize and fill the void of food insecurity for many students in their school districts; for weeks now, they have stepped up to pack and serve tens of thousands of meals weekly for students who might otherwise go without. They know many students still need a wellness check, so educators have donned masks and knocked on doors to make sure students are safe and secure. And at the end of the day, teachers still find the energy to organize parades through their school districts just to put a smile on their students' faces.

Their contributions to our community don't end with their students. We even have teachers who are working around the clock to produce face shields for health care workers on their school's 3D printers.

Teachers deserve special recognition this week and every week for their willingness to go above and beyond for the benefit of our students and families. In many ways, educators are the heart of Iowa's communities. They are thoughtful caretakers and mentors of our generations to come, and it is a role they approach with purpose and compassion. While educators face various professional challenges, many see teaching as their life's calling. I am grateful for every person who has

chosen to spend their careers sparking curiosity and creativity in our children. So please allow me to express my deep appreciation and thanks to every teacher in Iowa's Third Congressional District, and to honor them as Iowans of the Week.

HONORING ROMIALD OSCAR AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Romiald Oscar is the founder of Sunshine Services Group, a financial and consulting firm serving Polk County since 2011. Romiald is an accountant and consultant at the firm, where he works directly with individuals to examine the accuracy of financial statements and review financial records for tax filing; he also documents business financial transactions and compiles the necessary information to prepare entries for the company accounts. Romiald provides short term emergency loans to the people in his community such as cash advance and payday loans. He also assists them with immigration services and processing since Polk County has a large immigrant community that includes Haitians, St. Lucians, Jamaicans, Mexicans and others. Romiald successfully sustains over 9 years in providing services to Polk County.

As a leader, Romiald always stands with his community. He would volunteer to assist and help the people with various issues and concerns. He networks, seeks resources, and spots talents as he promotes his rich and colorful Haitian culture on Haitian holidays and especially on Haitian Flag day. Romiald has served as the president of the Haitian Association of Polk County since 2018 and contributes to several educational radio stations such as Radio Kalalou, Radio Tonmtom Internationale, and Voix Communauté Haitienne to inform, educate, and advise his community throughout Polk County and beyond.

Romiald has a very strong academic background. He completed his courses in pursuit of a Doctorate of Business Administration in Finance and is currently working on his dissertation from Walden University. He holds both an MBA in Accounting and bachelor's degree in Government from Liberty University, where he took part in the Student Government Association and other social activities.

Romiald Oscar is a respected and well-known name amongst the Polk County, Florida. He is a powerful voice in the community and will continue blazing a trail for the progress of the people in professional settings.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD AND CALLING FOR SYSTEMIC LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. George Floyd and to call for systemic law enforcement reform and accountability in our nation.

On May 25, 2020, Mr. George Floyd was murdered by a Minneapolis Police officer while three other officers stood by. This was a horrific crime that demands that the perpetrators be held fully accountable by our justice system and our society. The shocking video of Mr. Floyd's murder makes us all a witness to the brutally cruel and excessive treatment that caused Mr. Floyd's death. Now that the four officers involved in this outrageous act have been taken into custody and charged, the family of Mr. Floyd and our communities deserve to see justice done.

But the tragic death of Mr. Floyd was not an isolated incident of the cruel and excessive use of force against Black Americans or other people of color in police custody. It is only the latest example of a systemic problem that has plagued every state in this nation for generations. It is the duty of police and peace officers to keep our communities safe, but protecting public safety fundamentally demands a respect for the civil rights and human rights of all residents. All too often, people of color do not get that respect from the police.

Mr. Floyd should be alive today. He was a loving father and a proud older brother who looked out for his siblings. His family describes him as a kind soul and a gentle giant. My thoughts and prayers are with his family in their time of grief.

Mr. Floyd's death was a senseless tragedy that should never have happened. What we can do now to honor his memory is to finally bring accountability to our law enforcement practices and ensure that everyone in this nation regardless of the color of their skin is treated with dignity and respect. In Congress, that means passing the Justice in Policing Act of 2020. Madam Speaker, I am proud that the House of Representatives is advancing this critical reform legislation to a vote on the floor so that every Member of Congress has the opportunity to say loud and clear—no more.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF MARTIN POHL

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. HARDER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. Martin dedicated his career to our Central Valley almond industry and his efforts have positively benefitted communities and farmers throughout California.

Martin was known for many roles within the almond industry and will be remembered for

his strong leadership and passion for the industry and the people he served. Martin remained active with the Almond Board of California throughout his career as shown through his service on the Board's Technical and Regulatory Affairs committee, where he served as chairman. Additionally, his contributions to the industry's world-renowned food safety programs are unparalleled. His guidance and care for the almond industry and those who worked in it can be seen through his role as a mentor for the Almond Board's Leadership program since its inception. In addition to his work with the Almond Board, Martin and his original founding partners, Ham Cunningham and Cleo Barth, developed Hughson Nut Inc. in 1985. His skills in engineering and design were considered critical to the company's success and reputation as a leader in the industry.

His exemplary work was recognized in 2013 when he received the prestigious Almond Board of California's Almond Achievement Award and again in 2017 when he was recognized as the Almond Alliance's Member of the Year. Martin was a tremendous individual and had the love and respect of his peers in the community. His good nature and sincerity were infectious and many in the industry will tell you that Martin was the person they felt comfortable going to for guidance. His warmth and willingness to help everyone is an example of how Martin was a silent leader and strived to make the world a better place.

I am honored to recognize the life and exceptional service of Mr. Martin Pohl. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor Martin for his countless contributions to the almond industry and the State of California throughout his career.

HONORING KELLIE PARKIN AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, as the Pride Chamber's Chief Executive Officer, Kellie is a leader of Central Florida's LGBTQ economic equality movement. An award-winning photographer and writer, as well as an insatiable learner, Kellie works tirelessly every day, using her extensive experience in business development and journalism, to make our world a better, more inclusive, and equal place for all humans; and specifically, for her rainbow tribe whom she loves dearly.

A puzzle solver, pattern reader, and team builder, Kellie has the ability to see the big picture, understand other viewpoints, and seek new ways and solutions that lead to consensus and action. She has a global perspective and an individual approach.

Some of her recent recognitions include the Business Equality Network's National Top 40 LGBTQ Leaders Under 40, Watermark's Most Remarkable People, and the inaugural Chamber Leader of the Year Award by the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce. Under her transformative leadership, the Pride Chamber was honored as Chamber of the Year.

Last year she spearheaded the effort that led the City of Orlando and Orange County to

be the first in Florida to embrace and recognize LGBT businesses in their procurement processes.

Kellie serves on the Orlando Mayor's Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission and volunteers with the Central Florida Freethought Community, a non-profit dedicated to the separation of state and church. In the wake of the Pulse Tragedy, she served on the taskforce to formally establish the One Orlando Alliance, a coalition of non-profits unifying Central Florida's LGBTQ+ community.

She believes every moment counts, and that together we can create positive change if we show up, speak out, and act with love, which she strives to do daily for the community at large, and for her family, where she is a proud and fierce mama bear.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LOUISE ENDEL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to Louise Endel, a pillar of the New Haven community and a dear friend. Though she lived a long and fulfilling life, it still feels as though she was taken from us much too soon. Hers is a legacy of compassion, philanthropy and generosity that will surely continue to serve as an inspiration to all those who know her—and likely many that did not.

Louise and her husband, Charlie, moved to North Haven with their three daughters in 1952 and soon became actively involved in the community and with a myriad of community organizations, including the League of Women Voters, the Girl Scouts, and Ridge Road School's Parent Teacher Association. Louise and Charlie were also founding members of the Ridge Top Club, the first swimming club in the area to "eschew racial and religious discrimination." Over the course of her life, Louise served on fifty-two local, state and national boards and was passionately devoted to supporting many New Haven non-profits including the International Festival of Arts and Ideas, the Long Wharf Theatre, the Elm Shakespeare Theater, St. Raphael's Hospital Foundation, and L.E.A.P.

Louise was the epitome of a "people-person." She intrinsically understood the soul of a person—where their passions lay and how best they could make a difference. Louise herself was one of the most giving people I have ever had the good fortune to know. She was affectionately known as the "matchmaker"—not because she matched people for love, but because she could match people to the best ways in which they could contribute to the community. Louise connected people with complimenting talents, ensuring the success of countless organizations and events. In a word, she was remarkable.

I myself benefitted from her unique talents. Louise was one of the first people to approach and encourage me to run for Congress. I remember her coming to me and asking if I would ever consider running, and when I replied that I was, she said, "let me introduce you to . . ." and the rest, as they say, is history. I, like so many others, consider myself fortunate to have called her my friend.

Louise was an extraordinary woman whose kind heart and generosity touched the lives of many. A devoted mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Louise is survived by her three daughters, Susan, Barbara, and Patricia; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. To them, I extend my deepest sympathies and hope that they know what an enormous impact Louise had on all those who knew her. Hers is a legacy that will continue to inspire generations to come.

HONORING ASHLEY FIGUEROA AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Ashley Figueroa is an award winning leader in social services and a proud Trans Latina American Woman. Among her chosen advocacy roles, Ashley is the Founder and Executive Director of the Gender Advancement Project (GAP) which focuses on the progression and inclusion of Transgender and Gender Non Binary individuals in Central Florida.

Ashley also works with several local and national community based organizations to make a positive impact in today's society. Some of the boards she currently serves on are: Trans-Action Florida Advisory Council, The Contigo Fund Community Board, the National Network Latin Plus, and the Orlando Trans Collective. In 2019, Ashley was appointed by Mayor Buddy Dyer as the Secretary for the City of Orlando Census Complete Count Committee. That same year, Ashley was honored with the Voice of Equality award by Equality Florida and she was also named one of Watermark's Most Remarkable People of 2019 for her advocacy and leadership with the transgender community of Orlando.

Ashley's work has also earned her national recognition. Earlier this year, she was chosen as an honoree of the 41 List for being a Latinx LGBTQ+ role model.

HONORING THE FAMILY LEGACY OF McCLARD'S BAR-B-Q

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the near-century-old legacy of McClard's Bar-B-Q in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Founded by Gladys and Alex McClard in 1928, the fourth generation of the McClard family, represented by owners Scott and Shannon McClard, keeps its doors open today.

In the last century, McClard's has been a cultural icon of the Hot Springs area, gathering long lines of customers outside its doors on Albert Pike Road. Known for barbecue pork, ribs, tamales, and infamous barbecue sauce, the barbecue joint is a local favorite, even noted to be a favorite of President Bill Clinton's during his upbringing in Hot Springs.

The restaurant's leadership recently made the decision to sell the family-owned spot following a brief closing during the COVID-19 pandemic. While it has reopened this week under new ownership, the McClard family is still actively involved in the restaurant's progress in the community.

Not only does McClard's Bar-B-Q boast of some of the best cooking in the Southwest Arkansas area, but the restaurant holds 92 years of Arkansas culture, history, and memories. Theirs is a story of the American dream, and I look forward to seeing this place continue to be a place of joy for Fourth District residents, just as it has for nearly a century. I take this time to thank all generations of the McClard family for their years of hard work and their diligence in creating the most loved of Hot Springs traditions.

HONORING SUPERINTENDENT MARTHA MARTINEZ

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Salinas City Elementary School District Superintendent, Martha Martinez, on her retirement after serving the state of California as a public educator since 1975. An outstanding citizen and educator, Superintendent Martinez has made an unparalleled impact in the educational community of the central coast of California and our entire state through 45 years of service.

Superintendent Martinez's began her career as a paraprofessional in California's Bay Area before later becoming an elementary teacher. After 20 years as an educator, she put her expertise towards work as a school administrator with the Santa Clara County Office of Education and Gilroy Unified School District.

In 2015, she became Superintendent of the Salinas City Elementary School District. In this role, she has distinguished herself as a passionate advocate for providing all students, regardless of background, with a quality education that provides equitable opportunities for all learners. As a visionary leader, Superintendent Martinez not only holds students and educators to high expectations, but also provides her own endless support so that all goals can be attainable.

Superintendent Martinez has also built strong support for her district in the local community. She has launched a citywide literacy campaign in Salinas to provide over 160,000 residents with a free Early Literacy App and mobilized leaders across Monterey County to work to end bullying. With her robust background in building local and regional partnerships, Superintendent Martinez was selected to organize Salinas Founder's Day, to celebrate the city's 150th birthday, and the Salinas City Elementary School District's Sesquicentennial Commemoration. With these two events, Superintendent Martinez brought individuals from all backgrounds in our community together to celebrate the City of Salinas and its outstanding students. Recognizing the support of the community around her, Superintendent Martinez is well-known to distinguish the stellar efforts of those she works with at every possible opportunity.

In addition to her work in her role with the Salinas City Elementary School District, Superintendent Martinez has been an exemplary citizen and community member. She has won countless awards, serves as a member and leader in many local and regional organizations, and produced a three series Leadership Institute so that others can learn from her own success.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the dedication and work of Superintendent Martinez. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Superintendent Martinez and to congratulate her on her well-earned retirement. I extend my most earnest appreciation to Superintendent Martinez for her service to our community.

HONORING ANGUS L. BRADSHAW
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE
MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Angus L. Bradshaw is a thriving nonprofit leader serving Central Florida. A native of Central Florida, Mr. Bradshaw graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University (FAMU) with the help of several scholarships. He began his love for community-oriented care after surviving childhood cancer himself. This experience led Mr. Bradshaw to involve himself in his community through routine volunteerism and philanthropy at the young age of 14.

Mr. Bradshaw has been supporting the mission of Miracle of Love, Inc. an HIV service organization in Orlando, FL. since 2002. He became its Executive Director in 2016 and is known for his constant smile and fun-loving, compassionate demeanor. A revered leader in the organization and in the community, Mr. Bradshaw is equally known for his fierce focus on making the mission. He believes it is integral to do so with each employee and each client's self-respect, dignity, and morale intact. Mr. Bradshaw is aware that passion is not always enough, and he continually places himself in the position of a student; learning and applying those lessons to improve services and outcomes for those under his leadership. For this, he is valued by each of his team members and is seen as a community champion with upstanding repute. This has also given him expertise in many other areas; including social services, housing, and fundraising.

Angus serves on multiple municipal committees in the Orlando Metropolitan area. These include Vice-Chair of the Membership Committee for Ryan White Part A—Orlando EMA Health Services Planning Council; Executive Committee Member for the Housing Opportunity for People with AIDS Advisory Committee; Equality Florida Board Member; an Executive Planning Committee Member of SMART Ride, the second largest AIDS charity bicycle rides in the U.S.

HONORING DR. ROY WEAVER

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Dr. Roy Weaver, dean of Ball State University's Teachers College and a pillar of Indiana's education community. Dr. Weaver has been a fixture at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana for nearly 40 years as a faculty member, associate dean, and dean of Teachers College, and is retiring on June 30.

Dr. Weaver is a Hoosier in the best sense of the word, spending most of his career in the Muncie area. He is a two-time graduate from Ball State University, earning his bachelor's degree in English in 1968 and his master's degree in curriculum and instruction in 1971. He was a classroom teacher at Muncie Central High School where he taught Language Arts and coached the tennis, speech, and debate teams. Dr. Weaver earned his Ed.D. from Indiana University in 1975 and worked at the University of Southern California for five years. In 1980, he returned to his alma mater, and served with distinction as associate professor of curriculum, professor of curriculum, associate dean, and spent 19 years over two tours of duty as dean of Teachers College.

During his career, Dr. Weaver has been a staunch supporter of education innovation and educational choice. At Ball State University, he managed the operation of the award-winning laboratory school, Muncie Burris. He assisted in the creation of one of the nation's finest high schools, the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, which serves gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors. He oversaw the creation of Ball State University's Office of Charter Schools, becoming Indiana's only public university to authorize charter schools.

As a testament to his outstanding career, Dr. Weaver was awarded Ball State University's Outstanding Administrative Service Award and recognized by the National Association for Gifted Children with its Educator of the Year award. He is also a respected scholar and the author of six books on a variety of education topics.

Dr. Weaver has been a tremendous positive force for education in Indiana, and in the nation. He will be missed by his friends and colleagues at Ball State University, but his retirement is well-earned. On behalf of Hoosiers in Indiana's 6th District, I congratulate Dr. Weaver and thank him for his many contributions to our great state.

HONORING GAIL ORCUTT AS THE
IOWAN OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me

in honoring the late Gail Orcutt of Pleasant Hill, Iowa as Iowan of the Week.

A lifelong Iowan, Gail worked as a teacher for more than three decades before retiring in 2008. Two years later, after experiencing what she thought was a case of spring allergies, Gail was diagnosed with lung cancer: a big surprise for someone who had never smoked. Upon discovering her illness was caused by radon, she embarked on a years-long effort to educate herself and others on the dangers of radon exposure and importance of mitigation, all while battling lung cancer as a chronic illness and using her experiences to inspire hope in others fighting cancer.

During my first year in Congress, my team and I had the pleasure of working with Gail on multiple occasions to raise awareness of important issues in health care. She lent her voice to roundtable discussions on affordability of prescription drugs and accessibility to quality care, and her powerful, personal story always made an impact on everyone present. She was a frequent contributor to community discussions held by organizations like AARP Iowa and American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, all with an aim of educating others. She spent time passionately advocating to state legislators and lawmakers in Washington for policies that would better inform the public about radon and mandate radon testing in schools. She still found time to volunteer for organizations like Free to Breathe and participate in the American Lung Association's Fight for Air Climb—Des Moines, climbing the stairs of multiple downtown buildings post-treatment with one lung. Suffice it to say, she was a unique force for positive change.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to follow in Gail's footsteps and educate Iowans about radon testing and mitigation. Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas; you cannot see, smell, or taste it, but it may be present in your home or school building. While harmless in small amounts, breathing in elevated levels of radon can lead to serious illness. Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer, and we lose hundreds of Iowans every year to this illness. Five out of every seven homes in Iowa have an unacceptable level of radon, and it is recommended homeowners test their homes for radon every two years. The Iowa Radon Hotline at 1-800-383-5992 is a valuable resource to not only get answers to your questions, but also to order a testing kit to keep you and your family safe.

I admire Gail's courage, grace, and grit in the face of unimaginable challenge. Her legacy of teaching, advocating, and giving hope to those battling cancer is a beautiful example of Iowan values: persevering through difficult times, bettering the lives of those around you through hard work and dedication, and leaving something meaningful behind for future generations. Her work made a difference. I extend my sincere condolences to her loved ones during this difficult time and am keeping them in my prayers. Iowa is a better place because of neighbors like Gail Orcutt, and I am proud to honor her as Iowan of the Week.

HONORING GUENET GITTENS-ROBERTS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Guenet Gittens-Roberts is CEO of GGR Marketing & Public Relations, a company which currently markets and/or produces some of the largest Caribbean Festivals in Orlando including the Caribbean Fusion Festival in Kissimmee, the Orlando Carnival Downtown, and the Caribbean American Heritage Month Festival. She is responsible for developing and directing their communication strategy while also managing the agency's outreach to the advertising, charitable, and business communities. GGR Marketing & Public Relations was formed to develop and execute programs aimed at reaching multicultural communities and niche markets utilizing an effective mixture of relationship marketing, event marketing, and branding through social media and traditional media sources. They offer a broad range of services that include marketing, public relations, branding, special event planning and management, sponsorship and fundraising, business development, and media relations.

Gittens-Roberts is also the publisher of Caribbean American Passport News Magazine, the largest and only Caribbean owned State-wide Newspaper in Florida. Caribbean American Passport is heading into its 10th year in September and covers the people of the English, French and Spanish communities in Florida. Through their publishing arm, they were responsible for the publication of *Misión Boricua*, a Spanish publication designed to raise awareness for the Puerto Rican community to vote in the 2016 election.

As an active member of the community, Gittens-Roberts serves as President of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce. She also served as the vice president of the Central Florida Association of Black Journalists and vice president of the Guyanese American Cultural Association of Central Florida in addition to being actively involved in Greater Orlando Cares and United Foundation of Central Florida, two organizations focused on youth mentoring programs.

RECOGNIZING CINDY O'BOYLE

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cindy O'Boyle of Kalispell for encouraging, empowering, and uplifting women throughout Montana through the Montana Woman Foundation (MWF). Sixteen years ago, Cindy founded MWF and serves as its executive director. The 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization's mission is to help all Montana women reach their full potential through mentorship, workshops, and scholarships the group provides.

Cindy says she knows how important it is for women to support women. The group's

board believes women are stronger together and that programs that help women overcome challenges will ultimately benefit them and their communities.

Each year, MWF generally awards scholarships to women "who are generally non-traditional students or women who are underserved, underprivileged or have dealt with a variety of struggles including but not limited to homelessness or poverty, health issues, learning disabilities, domestic-violence, foster care, single- or teen motherhood."

Any Montana woman, regardless of age or social, economic, or cultural differences, may apply for the scholarship or participate in educational workshops or mentorship program. The goal is always the same: empower women to overcome obstacles, improve themselves, and better their community.

One specific example of success, which is near and dear to Cindy's heart, is a woman MWF helped during its first five years. The woman in her early 60s was married, and her husband worked and provided for them. Unfortunately, he had a stroke that forced him to end his career. The couple were not situated for retirement, and she faced the challenge of finding a good-paying job. To earn what the couple needed, she needed to go back to school. MWF paid for her to get the education she needed, she became an office assistant, and she began providing for the family. Cindy says it's scary to be put in that situation, but the woman's grit and determination brought her success.

This week, the foundation, which received over 250 applications for its 2020 scholarships, will announce the recipients. While MWF usually awards four annual scholarships, it will provide seven scholarships this year to Montana women across our state.

Madam Speaker, for nurturing and encouraging Montana women, helping change their lives, and supporting them in their success, I recognize Cindy O'Boyle of Kalispell for her Spirit of Montana.

CHUCK NEWSOM

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the Brigantine, New Jersey resident Chuck Newsom, Timber Creek High School Educator of the Year 2020.

This year we honor Chuck Newsom, a dedicated educator at Timber Creek Regional High School, on his receipt of the 2020 Timber Creek Regional High School Educator of the Year award. In addition to his role as a special education teacher, he serves as football coach, basketball coach, head coach of the girls' volleyball team and is a role model for all his students.

Prior to his career of being a special education teacher at Timber Creek Regional High School, Newsom pursued a degree in law and justice at Glassboro State College. He graduated in 1980 with career aspirations of going into law enforcement but changed course when he received a job offer as a Union Ironworker. After 10 years in the profession, Chuck decided to go back to school and earn a teaching certificate from Rowan University.

He began his career as a special education teacher at Camden and Pennsauken High Schools, where he also served as Assistant Coach for a myriad of different sports teams. After teaching for 13 years for Camden and Pennsauken High Schools, he later moved to Timber Creek Regional High School where he continued to teach students for an additional 13 years.

After more than a decade of inspiring, coaching, and shaping the lives of the students who attend Timber Creek Regional High School, Chuck is recognized as the Educator of the Year. He is beloved amongst his advisors, his pupils, and his teams. The connections he makes, along with his ability to inspire and engage, with all students allows him to excel in his position as a special education teacher.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring Chuck Newsom, of Brigantine, New Jersey, a dedicated public-school educator who continues to inspire hundreds of students throughout all of South Jersey.

HONORING LLOYD PHILLIPS AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Lloyd Phillips was born in Guyana and relocated to the United States with his parents and siblings in 1969. He completed his high school education in Brooklyn, New York where his quest for higher learning led him to enroll at Brooklyn College. He attained a bachelor's degree in Economics and then went to Long Island University where he graduated with an MBA in Finance.

Lloyd worked at Barclays Bank before being hired at the number one investment banking firm, Goldman Sachs & Company, where he worked in the Special Accounts Department. Lloyd subsequently worked his way up to Supervising Manager of the Special Accounts Trading Desk.

Lloyd's career at Goldman Sachs ended during an economic downturn and decided to embark on a career change, joining the ranks of the Uniformed Services in New York City. He rose to the rank of Captain before taking an early retirement.

With a young but growing family, Lloyd and his wife Delilah decided to relocate to Florida, so that their children can live in an environment better suited to their needs. The family settled in Kissimmee, where Lloyd is currently President of the Caribbean and Floridian Association. He was also the President of the Commonwealth Alliance Association, Vice-President of the Guyanese-American Cultural Association, President of the Guyanese-American Diaspora United, and Vice-President of the Strafford Park Home-Owners Association. He was also appointed as an Educational Resource Ambassador by the University of Guyana, awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition, presented by Congressman HAKEEM JEFFRIES for his work with the Guyanese Cultural Association of New York, and recognized by the City Council of

New York with a Certificate of Recognition presented by Council Member Mathieu Eugene.

HONORING AUBRI ESTERS

HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating the life of Ms. Aubri Esters, an outspoken and beloved activist.

Aubri was a voice for the unheard. She was unabashed in sharing her story and her lived experiences to advocate for the wellbeing of those most marginalized, including other transgender individuals, people with disabilities, people with substance use disorders, and trauma survivors.

In addition to serving on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Harm Reduction Commission, Aubri co-founded the organization SIFMA Now!, a coalition dedicated to building public support for supervised consumption sites and other life-saving harm reduction efforts. Whether on the ground working directly with impacted communities or in the Massachusetts State House advocating for progressive health policies that center those most vulnerable, Aubri was committed to saving lives.

On Thursday, June 11th, our community lost a true activist leader, table shaker and accomplice in the fight for health care justice. Aubri will be missed dearly, but her legacy lives on in the policy she helped to create, in the hearts of her fellow activists, and in the minds of policy makers who she engaged and enlightened.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the life of Aubri Esters and her contributions to the Massachusetts 7th Congressional District. We remember Aubri with tremendous gratitude for her life-saving advocacy. May she forever rest in power.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THERESA CARRANO ARGENTO

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with the heaviest of hearts that I rise today to pay tribute to the life and legacy of one of the pillars of New Haven's Italian-American community and my dear friend, Theresa Carrano Argento. She lived a long, full life and our community will not be the same without her.

One of six children, Theresa grew up in the Wooster Square neighborhood of New Haven. Her father owned a "specialty market," selling imported fruit from California—pears, oranges, and cherries, all individually wrapped in color-coded paper. Her mother was an immigrant from Italy. When the stock market crashed, her father nearly lost the store. Instead of folding as so many others had, her father found work, as did she and her siblings, and her mother was left to run the family business. It

was from these early life lessons that Theresa learned the true strength of family and community.

Theresa dedicated most of her adult life to preserving and celebrating the community and its members' shared Italian heritage. She was a founding member of the Saint Andrew's Ladies Auxiliary, the women's branch of one of New Haven's Italian-American Societies and an organization she led for decades before stepping down only a few short years ago. She was also a dedicated communicant of St. Michael's Church, Connecticut's oldest Italian church, organizing and supporting fundraisers and even serving as its bookkeeper for a time. She worked to revive the Columbus Day celebration in New Haven and was a constant presence at Wooster Square's annual Cherry Blossom Festival. She was a member, and often served in the leadership, of most of the Italian-American clubs and organizations in the community. Theresa understood the importance of preserving and sharing that culture and those traditions with new generations. She was, in a word, remarkable.

Theresa was a matriarch in the Wooster Square community, much like my own mother, Luisa. They were, in fact, great friends and it was a friendship that remained strong until my mother's passing just two years ago. Both Theresa and my mother were forces of nature in their own rights, and when they got together, there was no stopping them. It was at their feet that I learned the importance of community and it is on their shoulders that I stand today. I would not be who I am today without their influence so I will be forever grateful for their guidance and support.

Theresa was an extraordinary friend, mentor, and community leader. I like so many others consider myself fortunate to have known her. She was so much more than a friend—she was family. I am heartbroken at her loss, but I know her memory will live on. I extend my deepest sympathies to Theresa's daughters, Nettie and Francis, as well as her four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Throughout her life, she touched the lives of many and hers is a legacy that will continue to inspire both those who knew her and generations to come.

HONORING TOMMI PRITCHETT AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Tommi Pritchett currently serves as the Director of Development and Kissimmee Program Manager for LGBTQ+ Center Orlando, Incorporated. She is a native of Central Florida, earned her Bachelor of Arts in English at Rollins College, and has received several certificates from the Edyth Bush Institute for Philanthropy and Non-profit Leadership.

Her journey in public service began in 2010 when she volunteered for a local non-profit organization's booth at the Gay Days Expo. She continued as a volunteer with Paws Care for two years as their marketing and events coordinator; to which she attributes her love of

event planning and fundraising. She went on to volunteer and then work for Orlando Fringe, the longest running Fringe festival in the United States, and transitioned to the LGBTQ+ Center in August 2018.

In addition to animals and the LGBTQ+ community, Tommi advocates for the arts, women, and BIPOC, among other underserved and underprivileged communities. She is a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals Central Florida Chapter and serves on the board of directors for LoveyLoaves Special Needs Rescue and Sanctuary. She is honored to be recognized as an LGBTQ+ Community Leader in Central Florida and is proud to serve such a diverse and deserving community. She owes much of her success to the mentors she has had along her professional journey, as well as the staff, board, and volunteers at The Center, her family and friends, and the great community leaders she feels privileged to work alongside. When she is not busy with her leadership and advocacy responsibilities, she enjoys spending time with her family, dogs, and recently discovered a passion for hydroponic gardening.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD CHAIR MARNY XIONG

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Ms. Marny Xiong, Chairwoman of the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education who passed away from COVID-19 at the age of 31 on Sunday, June 7, 2020. Ms. Xiong was a trailblazing young activist, community leader, and a dedicated advocate for young people and strong public schools. Gender equity and racial justice were the core values that defined her public service.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in political science and African and African-American studies, Ms. Xiong began working in the local nonprofit community. In 2017 she was elected to the Saint Paul Public Schools Board of Education, demonstrating strong advocacy to improve our public schools. She played an important role in building support necessary to pass a bond referendum in 2018 that directed needed additional funding to Saint Paul schools.

When Ms. Xiong became Chairwoman of the Board in January of this year, her leadership abilities became evident as she confronted dual crises of the district's first ever teachers' strike and the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Xiong worked respectfully and collaboratively with Superintendent Joe Gothard and labor leaders to reach a successful resolution to the strike in early March. Only a short time later, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, she helped to steer the district's unprecedented transition to distance learning for more than 37,000 students. It is heartbreaking that this pandemic has now taken one of our community's rising leaders.

Ms. Xiong is survived by her parents, Mr. Zahoua Xiong and See Xiong, and her seven siblings: two sisters and five brothers, as well as two brothers-in-law, a sister-in-law, four nieces and nephews. Marny will be remembered as a caring community organizer, a

fierce fighter for all children and a selfless public servant. We mourn the loss of a young woman, a rising leader in our community. Her legacy is an inspiration to us all.

Please join me to celebrate the life of Ms. Marry Xiong and her work to create a brighter future for all students.

HONORING IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT AS IOWANS OF THE WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, National Police Week is a time for Iowans and people across the U.S. to celebrate local law enforcement officers who serve and protect our communities, and to honor the fallen heroes who lost their lives in the line of duty. These brave men and women in uniform have dedicated their lives to essential public service, and some have given the ultimate sacrifice. The COVID-19 pandemic may delay public ceremonies to recognize these individuals, but we can still take time this week to remember those we have lost, share our support for their loved ones, and thank those who continue to serve.

Law enforcement officers do far more than safeguard our lives and property. Today, community policing involves officers working in partnership with organizations and neighborhoods to create safer spaces. Not only are police responding to calls for help and providing support on the street, they're also in our schools teaching kids how to make good choices so they can continue on a path toward success. There is no shortage of stories of officers from my district going above and beyond on the job.

In late March as the community closed up shop to slow the spread of COVID-19, the Creston Police Department covered its front doors and windows in a display of colorful paper hearts as a symbol of hope for Iowans during this trying time.

Earlier this month Des Moines Police Sgt. Paul Parizek spent National Teacher Appreciation

Week visiting multiple educators and school support staff at home and at work to thank them for their service to our kids. During the same stretch of time, Sgt. Andrew Phipps from Des Moines PD visited 90-year-old Earl, a fellow veteran, on his birthday to share in the socially distanced celebration.

Waukee Police Department's Sgt. Hector Arias and Officer Gilchrist have been lending a helping hand passing out free Waukee Community School District Grab & Go Meals and devices to help students participate in virtual learning from home.

Just before schools moved to distance learning this spring, Council Bluffs Police Chief Tim Carmody visited Mrs. Nickerson's class of first graders at Rue Elementary School to participate in the Read Across America Program. Having recently welcomed Officer Deana Roth and Officer Meghan Thomson to the force, Chief Carmody is now leading his team in important efforts like educating the public on how to identify and avoid door-to-door sales scams during the Coronavirus outbreak.

Our police officers' contributions to our community don't end at handing out meals and spending time in the classroom. Faced with the additional health risks presented by this pandemic, our police officers continue to exhibit honor and bravery by serving their neighbors. They go to work knowing they could come face-to-face with Coronavirus, and that it is only one of the challenges they encounter while on duty. Because of their dedication and sacrifice, it is my pleasure to honor members of central and southwest Iowa's law enforcement community by nominating them as our Iowans of the Week.

HONORING JUAN RODRIGUEZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR PRIDE MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2020

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Juan has invested 19 years working in the HIV arena. In

2001, he promised his partner, who was dying from AIDS, that he would devote his life to helping individuals infected with HIV and to eradicating the disease.

In 2016, under the guidance and direction of Dr. Roberto Ortiz, Juan started Bliss CARES, a nonprofit organization in Orlando. The mission of Bliss CARES is to save lives by treating and preventing the spread of HIV, Hepatitis and STD's. They strive to serve every person who walks through their doors, regardless of ability to pay. Bliss CARES has provided FREE HIV, STD and Hepatitis testing and services to more than 1987 clients and has spent over \$1.8 million on their much-needed medical care.

While leading a caring, and results driven team, Juan has created 5 lifesaving programs for Central Florida. These include:

TRANSformation, a 7-part conversational educational program to assist the Transgender community and sponsors name changes for transgender persons interested in the process;

Sweet Dreams Emergency Housing, an innovative program created to help Transgender individuals have a safe place to sleep that includes services for mental health counseling and substance abuse;

the Bliss Health Insurance Subsidy Program, which grants lifesaving medical care to STD positive individuals without insurance and

the Bridge Program, which provides access to medical care, treatment, mental health, laboratory tests, vaccines, transportation, and grants copay assistance for medications and doctor's visits. The program was designed to provide comprehensive medical care to the uninsured and underinsured populations who have a STD or need preventive care.

Last, but not least, Juan's nonprofit grants free access to the PrEP and PEP-Program, one designed to provide immediate care for all individuals who believe they may have been exposed to the HIV virus. This program prevents HIV from entering the blood stream, thus reducing HIV cases in Central Florida.